

University and Educational Intelligence.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Linacre Lecture will be delivered on Friday, May 6, by Dr. J. A. Murray, Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, on the subject of "Multiple New Growths."

LONDON.—Applications are invited (until July 1) for the Laura de Saliceto studentship, of the annual value of £150, for the advancement of cancer research; also (until June 15), for grants from the Thomas Smythe Hughes Fund for assisting medical research. The applications should be addressed to the Academic Registrar of the University, South Kensington.

GLASGOW.—At the ceremony of graduation held on Saturday, April 23, the following University prizes, among others, were awarded: The Captain H. S. Ranken, V.C., Memorial Prize to the student who obtained the highest marks in the subject of pathology in the professional examinations held in the year 1926, to Andrew M. Wyllie; Thomson Prize in geography for an essay on "The Economic Geography of the Lanarkshire Coalfield," to David W. Cousin; Bellahouston Gold Medals for eminent merit in theses for M.D. to Dr. George M. Wishart and Dr. Donald M'Intyre; Struthers Gold Medal and Prize for research on "The Development of the Vascular System in the Human Ovum prior to the Establishment of the Heart," to Dr. Donald M'Intyre.

ST. ANDREWS.—The University Court has appointed Dr. George J. Robertson, St. Andrews, to the lectureship in chemistry in the United College, vacant through the resignation of Dr. George MacOwan.

DR. PETER G. CARTER, of the Chemistry Research Laboratory, United College, University of St. Andrews, has been appointed to a lectureship in organic chemistry in the University of Sydney.

It is exactly two years since the Hebrew University of Jerusalem was inaugurated by Lord Balfour, and it is of considerable interest to examine the progress that has been made. An account of this progress is contained in a recent circular sent out by the Board of Governors. The work of the University is at present mainly directed towards research, and the lectures delivered are intended for graduate students. In the Institute of Jewish Studies and in the Arabic section of the School of Oriental Studies, a number of graduate courses are being delivered by twelve professors and lecturers. In the Institute of Chemistry, research workers are being trained, and many papers have been published. A Department of Hygiene has been organised to investigate problems in epidemiology. Important fundamental work has been carried out in the Department of Microbiology. An Institute of Palestine Natural History is being organised. Preparations are in hand for a Mathematics Department and for the erection of a Physics Department. Great progress has been made with the Library, which now has 140,000 volumes, and many valuable scientific collections have been acquired. The annual budget of the University is at present £35,000, and the academic staff numbers about fifty. Steps are being taken to widen the scope of the University, with special reference to the introduction of more extended teaching, and the consolidation of some of the chief departments and sub-faculties.

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Calendar of Discovery and Invention.

May 1, 1843.—On this day was published the "Manual of British Botany," a work in which Charles Cardale Babington critically compared the native flora of Britain with continental plants.

May 1, 1866.—Recognised from the first as the leading meteorological journal of the world, the *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* was started by Julius Hann on May 1, 1866, and he continued to edit it with various colleagues until 1921. Its original name was the *Zeitschrift der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Meteorologie*.

May 2, 1800.—Constructing a voltaic pile by the aid of the information in Volta's famous letter to Sir Joseph Banks in March 1800, Nicholson and Carlisle, on May 2, 1800, demonstrated that water could be split up into its constituent gases by the passage of a current of electricity. Their pile contained 36 half-crowns and 36 zinc discs.

May 3, 1715.—Down to the eighteenth century, accounts of total solar eclipses are meagre. That of May 3, 1715, was observed, however, by several astronomers in England, and Halley has left an interesting account of it. "I forbear to mention," he says, "the chill and damp which attended the darkness of this eclipse, of which most spectators were sensible and equally judges. Nor shall I trouble you with the concern that appeared in all sorts of animals, birds, beasts, and fishes, upon the extinction of the sun, since ourselves could not behold it without some sense of horror."

May 3, 1865.—While serving as a sergeant in the Garibaldean Wars of 1859, Pacinotti thought out the principle of the ring armature dynamo. He constructed such a machine in 1860, and described his invention on May 3, 1865, in the scientific journal *Il nuovo cimento*. Gramme's re-invention of the ring armature in 1870 was done without any knowledge of the work of Pacinotti.

May 5, 1707.—In his "Memoirs," Whiston says: "Mr. Cotes and I began our first course of philosophical experiments at Cambridge, May 5, 1707. In the performance of which certain hydrostatick and pneumatick lectures were composed: they were in number twenty-four, the one-half by Mr. Cotes and the other half by myself, which lectures were afterwards made use of in the like (enlarged) course which Mr. Hauksbee and I performed many years in London."

May 6, 1845.—On this day Wheatstone and Cooke patented the single needle telegraph instrument which has remained in use for more than eighty years.

May 6, 1886.—One of the most important contributions to the study of dynamo design was the paper on dynamo-electric machinery by John and Edward Hopkinson, read to the Royal Society on May 6, 1886. The first part of the paper was devoted to the construction of a characteristic curve for a machine of given dimensions, and the second part to a description of actual experiments with a dynamo, which were carried out at the Salford Iron Works of Mather and Platt.

May 6, 1896.—Commencing his experiments on planes moving through the air in 1887, Langley showed that relatively little power was required to sustain a given weight if the horizontal velocity reached a certain speed. Putting his ideas into practice, he made a steam-driven model aeroplane weighing about 25 pounds, which on May 6, 1896, at Quantico, Virginia, flew for about 1000 yards.

E. C. S.